1	2	3
6.	Non Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants	67.18
7.	IAEPS/FDA under Samanvit Gram Vanikaran Samriddhi Yojana Scheme	80.00

Wildlife sanctuaries in the country

1418. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many wildlife sanctuaries, National Parks, Zoos are in the country State-wise; and

(b) whether it is a fact that many rare varieties of animals died in wildlife sanctuaries and national parks because of carelessness of the zoo authorities; if so, what is Government's action Plan to check unusual death of animals?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The information is given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(b) Zoo authorities are no way involved in management of National Parks and sanctuaries. Separate set of officers are involved in Management of National Parks and Sanctuaries. No cases of death of animals due to carelessness of officers have been reported. The main pressure on national parks and sanctuaries is from the mafias who illegally hunt the wildlife for pecuniary benefits.

Steps taken by the Government to safeguard against illegal hunting of wild animals include:

(1) *Steps taken at the State level:*

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(iii) The Chief Wildlife Wardens of all the four Southern States hold periodical meetings for border area protection and to deal with the problems of poaching and illegal trade.

(iv) Regular Task Force consisting of Police and Forests Officials has been set up to deal with poachers and smugglers.

(v) Anti poaching camps has been established at sensitive places in Southern Indian States.

(vi) The State of Karnataka have set up a Special Forest Cell in the police department consisting 300 personnels and headed by an Inspector General of Police to deal with forest offences.

(vii) The Forest protection staff has been provided immunity against arrest in case they open fire on the poachers and smugglers.

(2) *Steps taken at National level*

(i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

(ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

(iii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally-Sponsored Schemes, *viz.* Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising 'Strike Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is

also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.

(iv) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(v) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

(vi) A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrastructure both within and outside protected areas.

(vii) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(3) *Steps taken at International level*

(i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.

(ii) To control transboundary trade a protocol has been signed with Peoples' Republic of China and a MoU with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

(iii) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

Statement

State-wise number of National Parks, sanctuaries and zoos in the country

S. No.	State	No. of National Parks	No. of Sanctuaries	No. of Recognised Zoos
1	2	3	4	5
1.	A & N Islands	9	96	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4	21	18
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	11	3
4.	Assam	5	15	1
5.	Bihar	1	11	1
6.	Chandigarh	0	2	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	3	10	2
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	1	1
9.	Daman & Diu	0	1	1
10.	Delhi	0	2	2
11.	Goa	1	6	1
12.	Gujarat	4	21	9
13.	Haryana	1	9	4
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2	32	6
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	16	0
16.	Jharkhand	1	10	6
17.	Karnataka	5	21	17
18.	Kerala	3	12	7
19.	Lakshadweep	0	1	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	9	25	6
21.	Maharashtra	5	33	18
22.	Manipur	1	5	1
23.	Meghalaya	2	3	1
24.	Mizoram	2	5	2
25.	Nagaland	1	3	1

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Orissa	2	18	8
27.	Punjab	0	10	5
28.	Rajasthan	4	24	7
29.	Sikkim	1	5	2
30.	Tamil Nadu	5	20	12
31.	Tripura	0	4	2
32.	Uttar Pradesh	1	23	15
33.	Uttaranchal	6	6	5
34.	West Bengal	5	15	13
	TOTAL	89	497	178

Effective environment laws

1419. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are not enough effective laws to improve environment either air, water (sea and river) and land; and

(b) if so, how Government plan to introduce more stringent and practical laws in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ganga Action Plan-II

1420. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National River Authority has considered the recommendations of Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam and of the Varanasi